



MANATABA MESSENGER

A Publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes

Volume V Issue I

February, 2007

CRIT receives grant for child crisis shelter

\$825,000 will go toward construction of new facility to serve Tribal youth

CRIT children facing difficult circumstances will soon have a safe, protective and homelike environment available while they await foster care, or when they need emergency shelter services.

CRIT recently secured an \$825,000 grant from the federal department of Housing and Urban Development to build a new shelter for abused and neglected children.

See related story, "Long-awaited juvenile facility on the way, Page 5

"This grant will allow us to build something really nice, something really good for the kids," said CRIT Deputy Attorney General Lola TaNeil Wood.

The home, which will be built near the Indian Health Services Hospital,

will have 20 beds. A Request for Proposals for the design of the facility will be announced soon.

"We hope to be up and running by this time next year," said CPS Administrator Janice Patch. "This will make a world of difference for us. I've been with the tribe since 1999 and we've always seen this as a need."

Patch said that when a situation requires CPS to take temporary or permanent custody of a child, the first step is to try and place the youngster with relatives or a foster family.

However, that is not always possible, particularly on weekends, holidays and after

Please see SHELTER, Page 5

New Tribal leaders take reins



(Above) Eldred Enas is sworn in as Tribal Vice Chairman. (Right) Dennis Welsh, Jr. was elected to the Council for the first time in the December election. Photos courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo.

New Vice Chairman, three new council members take office

CRIT's three new Tribal Council members took their oaths of office on Jan. 2 inside the Council Chambers.

Eldred Enas, who resigned his seat on the Council to run for Vice Chairman was victorious in a three-way contest in the December 2 Tribal elections. Enas defeated incumbent Vice Chairman Russell Welsh and Edward Kennard Yava Sr.

Daphne Hill-Poolaw, Dennis Welsh, Jr. and

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CRIT challenges businesses violating law

Two Parker-area businesses could face expulsion and three others in Big River could be fined thousands of dollars for failing to obtain Colorado River Indian Tribes' business licenses.

CRIT officials filed complaints in Tribal Court on Dec. 28 against Big River Market, One Stop Hair Shop and the Dock Restaurant in Big River, as well as Domino's Pizza and Davis Building Supply in Parker for alleged violations of the Tribes' Business and Professions Code.

All five businesses are located within the Reservation.

In addition to seeking damages, CRIT is also seeking to expel the Domino's franchise and

Davis Building Supply. Expulsion does not mean the businesses will be forced to move from their current locations, but, if the cases are successful, they will not be able to make deliveries "or otherwise conduct business on tribal lands or Indian lands owned or occupied by tribal members," said CRIT Attorney General Eric Shepard.

The Tribes are pursuing expulsion because failing to obtain a tribal business license puts the health, safety and welfare of tribal members at risk.

Please see TAX CODE, Page 9

News & Information From Your Tribal Council



Daniel Eddy, Jr.
Chairman



Eldred Enas
Vice Chairman



Daphne Hill-Poolaw,
Treasurer



Valerie Welsh-Tahbo,
Secretary



Dennis Patch



Herman "TJ"
Laffoon



Fernando "Bo"
Flores



Richard
Armstrong



Dennis Welsh, Jr.

Messenger bids farewell to Welsh, Aspa and Homer

The election of 2006 is behind us and CRIT is moving forward with three new Council members. This is an exciting time for CRIT as newly elected members Richard Marvin Armstrong, Dennis Welsh, Jr. and Daphne Hill-Poolaw, as well as new Vice Chairman Eldred Enas, will surely bring new ideas, energy and perspectives to the vital policy discussions that impact the Tribes' future.

But it is important at this time to also recognize the efforts and contributions of three hard-working and dedicated leaders who each gave so much of themselves over the years in service to CRIT.

The *Manataba Messenger* would like to thank departing Tribal Council Vice Chairman Russell Welsh and Council Members Ray Aspa and Sylvia "Cindy" Homer for their esteemed service and hard work on behalf of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

Public service is a difficult and often thankless job. That is why CRIT owes these three leaders a profound debt of gratitude. Your contributions will never be forgotten. They made a positive difference for our people.

We wish Council Members Aspa, Homer and Welsh all the best. And we sincerely hope all will remain active in the community and continue to be a positive influence on the Tribes' future in other arenas. The new council members have some big shoes to fill. We know they have the wisdom, energy and commitment to do just that.

Gaming victory gains national attention

CRIT court ruling covered in *USA Today*; McCain comments unfortunate

CRIT's recent federal court victory preserving Tribal sovereignty and preventing unlawful bureaucratic overreach by the National Indian Gaming Commission has gained national attention.

An article printed in *USA Today* late last year put a national spotlight on CRIT's victory, which upheld a legal decision that NIGC does not have the authority to regulate "Class III" gaming such as slot machines and blackjack.

The case stemmed from NIGC's attempts to audit Class III gaming activities at the BlueWater Resort & Casino several years ago.

CRIT objected to the audit and was fined by the NIGC, but a federal judge later agreed with CRIT's position.

The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit then upheld the federal trial judge's ruling that the NIGC had overstepped its statutory authority.

Unfortunately, the *USA Today* article struck a

negative tone, presenting the perspective of federal auditors in the first paragraph and claiming that the ruling had crippled their ability to examine operations at Indian casinos, raising concerns that the \$22 billion Indian gaming industry could be increasingly vulnerable to corruption.

CRIT strongly disagrees with that assessment. And it was disappointing to note that the American Indian perspective was not included until the seventh paragraph of the story. In that section, Ernest Stevens Jr. of the National Indian Gaming Association accurately noted that states are already providing accurate gaming oversight.

The NIGC "does not need duplicative federal rule-making authority over matters already addressed by tribal law and the tribal-state compact process," Stevens told *USA Today*.

CRIT has been particularly surprised by U.S. Senator John McCain's comments on the matter. McCain seems strangely more interested in furthering unlawful, duplicative federal regulations.

— Letters to the editor —

County supervisor thanks residents for support in stopping recall vote

I learned on Dec. 5 that the recall attempt against me has failed.

This was the first time in the history of La Paz County that a FINANCED recall had been attempted.

People were hired to circulate petitions, commercials were made and time was purchased to run ads on the radio. Newspaper ads were run time and time again.

The residents of District 1 did not fall for it. They showed me tremendous support and I am so thankful to all of you who encouraged me to stay strong.

The paid circulators used deception and still they failed to get enough valid signatures. They told some people that signing the petition would be a way of supporting me.

They changed their tactics when they knocked on doors and told some people that they "had to sign the petition."

Here is what I know for sure about this recall attempt: I received a phone call in late May, from a person in Phoenix who told me that a man from the state of Washington was contacting firms in Phoenix so that he could hire them to coordinate a recall against me. The caller asked, "Who did you ' (blank) off' that

lives in Washington?" I said, "Jim Willett," and the caller said, "that's the name!"

Here's another little fact. Andy Jones has a business tie with Jim Willett, the owner of Yakima, a Washington-based company that had a sludge business in La Paz County. Remember now, Andy's wife was the Treasurer of this recall movement.

Jerry McGuire was the Chairman of this recall movement. What's his story?

Mr. McGuire has told at least one person that he was offered so much money that he couldn't turn the "job" down. After he turned in the recall petitions, he told others that, "he would need to find other work now that he was out of a job."

Two of the petition circulators that stood at the various stores around town and went to your homes time and time again, show their addresses to be hotels in Phoenix. What does that tell you about the people that were hired to circulate the petitions here?

When this recall attempt started, I said I had faith in the citizens of La Paz and specifically those that live in District 1. The recall attempt failed because you saw this for what it was.

Thank you.

Gene Fisher

County Supervisor, District 1
Parker

We want to hear from you! What's on your mind? Write us a letter!

The *Manataba Messenger* encourages letters to the editor.

Share your thoughts on key issues and tell us about things the people of CRIT might find of interest. We will publish a maximum of 250 words; longer letters will be edited for length.

You may send letters to:

Route 1, Box 23-B

Parker, AZ 85344

feedback@critonline.com

Photo contest spans from Parker to Paris



Submit now, win big in April

First place in the *Manataba Messenger* photo contest for February goes to Judy Hooper for her photo of grandson Tyler Eddy and the 19-pound largemouth bass he caught in the Colorado River (below right). She will receive \$100.

Second place goes to Feather Evanston for her photo of Leon Evanston after what she called a "spaghetti catastrophe" (top middle). She will receive \$50.

Third place goes to Stephanie Enas for her photo of Sofia Rodriguez on Halloween (middle left). She will receive \$25.

Honorable mentions go to:

- Tristen Harper of Parker for her photo of

the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France (top right).

- Rochelle Drennan for her photo of her nephew Avier Webb (bottom left).

- Mia Sanchez for her photo of her family celebrating several birthdays (top right). It was Sanchez' 41st birthday along with David Sanchez' fifth birthday (he's in the maroon sweater).

The deadline for submissions for the April 1 issue is March 15.

You must be a tribal member, and no professional portraits are eligible. Send your picture to: *Manataba Messenger*, C/O Rose & Allyn, 7051 E. 5th Avenue Suite B, Scottsdale, AZ 85251.

Or, you may just e-mail the entry to feedback@critonline.com.



Meth coalition attends summit

CRIT Meth Coalition (CMC) members had the opportunity to attend Governor Janet Napolitano’s 2007 Arizona Methamphetamine Strategic Action Planning Summit on January 10 and 11. More than 400 people attended the summit, including tribal, county, state and federal representatives. The two-day summit offered an overview of other national, state and local programs that are also trying to combat the meth problems in their communities.

The summit also allowed the 22 different coalitions to define the problems that they are facing at the State and local level. It allowed CMC to express their concern regarding the state grant funding language forfeiting their sovereign immunity. Each coalition defined five problems, barriers, and possible solutions for their community. The CMC presented their findings to the full coalition at a meeting on January 31. Please note: The CMC meets the last Wednesday of every month in tribal chambers at 5:30 pm.

The CMC also presents a monthly community awareness nights. The topic for January was the effect of methamphetamine on babies, by Patty Fritz, I.H.S. Public Health Nurse. The topic for February 7 will be traditional parenting. The awareness nights are held in tribal chambers at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

If you have any questions or are interested in joining the coalition, contact Bylli Esquerra, Vice Chairperson, at (928) 669-6577.



Better than a lump of coal

Lisa Logan was the winner of the Giant Christmas Stocking Drawing, held December 21 at the CRIT Library. Lisa is the 10-year old daughter of Eva Logan. (Submitted by Gil Harper)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Designation of Area of Potential Effects on Historic Properties and Request for Information about Historic Properties for Siemens Water Technologies (formerly US Filter Westates) Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

Siemens Water Technologies is a hazardous waste treatment facility on the Colorado River Indian Reservation near Parker, Arizona. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is in the process of making a permit decision at Siemens.

Designation of Area of Potential Effects

As part of the permit decision, EPA must comply with the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). In compliance with the NHPA, EPA is designating an Area of Potential Effects on historic properties for its permit decision at Siemens.

The map to the right shows the Area of Potential Effects on historic properties. EPA is designating this Area of Potential Effects after consultation with the Colorado River Indian Tribes, the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office, the Town of Parker, and Siemens, and with consideration of public comments on a proposed Area of Potential Effects. You may find information about the comments EPA received and the basis for our designating this Area of Potential Effects on EPA's website, at local public repositories listed to the right, or by contacting EPA. Contact information is noted to the right.

Please note that this Area of Potential Effects is for potential effects **only on historic properties** from EPA's permit decision regarding the Siemens facility. Under a separate authority, EPA is also requiring Siemens to conduct a human health and ecological risk assessment which will evaluate potential human health and ecological effects up to 30 miles from the facility due to Siemens' operations. In the future, EPA will publish separate public notices regarding the risk assessment and other EPA actions at Siemens, such as the draft permit decision. If you would like to receive future public notices in the mail, please let us know by phone, email, or mail, and we'll put you on our mailing list.

Determining Whether There May Be Adverse Effects to Historic Properties

EPA must now determine whether a hazardous waste permit decision at Siemens may cause adverse effects to any historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects. EPA will make this determination after researching public records, consulting with the consulting parties noted above, and considering comments from the public. Therefore, EPA would like to hear from you about any historic properties that you know of within the Area of Potential Effects and about any adverse effects you believe a Siemens permit may cause to the historic properties. For each historic property, please describe why you believe it to be a historic property and please describe the specific adverse effects you believe a Siemens permit may cause.

Criteria for Identifying Historic Properties and Adverse Effects

EPA will use NHPA criteria in determining whether a site or structure within the Area of Potential Effects is a historic property and whether a Siemens permit may cause adverse effects to the historic properties. Under the NHPA, a historic property may be a building, structure, site, object, or district that is important in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, or culture. The term "historic property" also includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian Tribe. Under the NHPA, an adverse effect to a historic property is any effect that would diminish the integrity of certain aspects of the property such as location, design, setting, or feeling.

To learn more about the NHPA process and criteria for identifying historic properties and adverse effects you may access "Citizen's Guide to Section 106 Review" at www.achp.gov/citizensguide.html and "How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation" at www.crnpns.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/. You may also obtain these documents by contacting EPA or visiting the public repositories.

Next Steps

EPA must take possible adverse effects to historic properties into consideration in making its permit decision. If EPA determines that there are no historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects, or that a Siemens permit will not cause adverse effects to any historic properties, then EPA will issue a public notice making this determination, and this will complete the NHPA process. If EPA determines that there are historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects and that a Siemens permit may cause adverse effects to the historic properties, then EPA will consult with the consulting parties to determine whether mitigation measures are necessary. EPA will then issue a public notice either proposing mitigation measures, or making a determination that mitigation measures are not necessary.

We are interested in any information you may have on historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects

If you have information on historic properties within the Area of Potential Effects, including possible adverse effects from a Siemens permit to the historic properties, please let EPA know by **March 5, 2007**. Any information you submit will become part of the public record. However, if there is information that you would like to provide, but that you believe should remain confidential either for your anonymity or to protect the historic property, please contact us by phone, and we will explore options for keeping the information confidential. You may contact EPA at any time during the process to advise us of concerns or comments you may have regarding the NHPA process at Siemens.



A detailed map and additional documents regarding the steps leading up to this determination are available at public repositories at the Parker Public Library and the Colorado River Indian Tribes Museum. You may also obtain these documents and information, as well as information about Siemens and the National Historic Preservation Act, at the public repositories, by contacting EPA at the address or phone number to the right, and at EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/region9/waste/siemens/>.

To comment, or for more information, you may write, email, or call Karen Scheuermann at:

Karen Scheuermann
US EPA Region 9 (WST-4)
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

scheuermann.karen@epa.gov

Phone: (415) 972-3356

Toll-free number: (800) 231-3075

Long-awaited juvenile facility on the way

In addition to the grant to build a new children's home, CRIT has also secured a similar grant from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development to begin construction on a new juvenile detention facility.

The \$825,000 grant will cover about one-fourth the cost of construction. CRIT tax revenue will also contribute to the cost of construction. The facility is now in planning phases with an architecture firm working to complete the building's design. The facility is slated to be open early next year.

Unfortunately, this facility is being built in response to a crisis spawned by a dangerous and irresponsible juvenile detention policy currently being undertaken by the Bureau of

Indian Affairs. The policy calls for removing juveniles from tribal detention facilities and transporting them to other states. Tribal law enforcement officers used for these long trips are then not available to patrol on the reservation, or to provide security at tribal detention facilities.

Putting juveniles into far-flung detention facilities, away from their communities and families, has greatly increased their chances of re-offending upon release.

And, despite its obligation, the BIA has failed to pay for this mandate.

This is a dangerous and unacceptable situation and CRIT is only one of at least seven other Arizona tribes that have spoken out about the situation.

SHELTER,

From Page 1

business hours.

"We were really struggling on weekends," Patch said. "Staff was having to take children home if they couldn't find relatives."

One aspect of the shelter's design that Patch is adamant about: It will be as much like a normal home as possible.

"We want (the new facility) to have a nurturing environment, a home-like setting where they feel safe and protected," Patch said. "We don't want anything that seems institutional."

While speaking about the new shelter, Patch also raised another issue that has hit the CPS budget hard in the past two years.

That is the Bureau of Indian Affairs' policy of no longer paying for services for Native American children who are not enrolled with a tribe.

"Parents need to enroll all children; it's gotten really costly," Patch said.

"Parents either don't enroll their children

"We want (the new facility) to have a nurturing environment, a home-like setting where they feel safe and protected."

**— Janice Patch
CPS Administrator**

or there's no proof of paternity. They can file for enrollment, but the Enrollment Committee only meets quarterly."

It costs CRIT between \$300 and \$700 a month to provide CPS care for a non-enrolled child. Patch doesn't agree with the BIA policy, but it's been a trend for several years.

"The BIA's responsibility is to pay for Native Americans, however they do not unless the children are enrolled," Patch said. "They have been steadily scaling back and phasing out. We're getting to self determination slowly, but we're not ready yet."

Wood stressed that CRIT is "always in need of new foster families; we're always looking."

For more information on how to become a foster parent, call Social Services at (928) 669-6093.

Tax preparation available for free through CRIT, IRS

The CRIT Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program and the IRS recently announced free tax help is available throughout the Parker area.

The free tax help site is located in the Employment Development & Training Office, 13390 1st Avenue in Parker, and is by appointment only.

Local residents need to call (928) 669-8555 to schedule an appointment between the hours of 8 a.m. to noon and 1-5 p.m.

IRS trained volunteers will discuss and determine eligibility for important federal tax credits such as the Child Tax Credit, the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Telephone Excise Tax Refund.

Tax credits can reduce federal income taxes and may result in refunds.

Tribal members and other area residents are asked to bring: photo identification for themselves (and their spouses); Social Security Numbers or Individual Tax Identification Numbers for each person listed on the tax return; all wage and earnings statements (Forms W-2); interest and dividend statements (Forms 1099); a copy of last year's tax return and any other information concerning income and expenses for 2006.

If filing jointly, both spouses must be present to sign the required forms.

Free electronic filing is offered at the CRIT site. Electronic filing provides the highest degree of speed, accuracy and security in filing tax returns.

And Direct Deposit can increase the speed of your refund to as little as 10 days and your check can't get lost or stolen.

Last year about 300 people took advantage of the service. For information about other free tax help sites, contact the IRS at 800-829-1040, Monday thru Friday from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., or visit the IRS' web site at www.irs.gov.

CRIT online learning partnership with AWC moving forward

As reported in the last edition of the *Manataba Messenger*, the CRIT Education Department is working with Arizona Western College to offer online-learning Associates' Degrees to Tribal members and other Native Americans in two beneficial subjects.

To further assist students, the CRIT Education Department has created helpful checklists of course requirements to assist students with their online learning programs.

The checklists can be e-mailed or faxed to students easily — just call the Education Department if you would like one, or stop by their office.

The degrees will initially include Computer Information Systems (CIS) and Health Education.

The degrees will be offered as part of "cohort" programs, where students learn primarily through online classes but are encouraged to work together in groups of 5-10 as

"The cohort approach has been successful in other academic settings for American Indian students because it provides peer and academic support that is often missing from many colleges and universities. As problems arise, they are addressed quickly."

**— Dr. Jay Cravath
CRIT Education Administrator**

part of the learning process.

"We are getting students for the programs and are looking at an April start-up," said CRIT Education Administrator Dr. Jay Cravath.

"The cohort approach has been successful in other academic settings for American Indian students because it provides peer and academic support that is often missing from many colleges

and universities. As problems arise, they are addressed quickly."

Two groups of cohorts will be identified. One will consist of college-ready students, and the other of high school students who will begin coursework while in high school and continue on after graduation.

CIS and Health Education are two areas where Native tribes could use more educated, trained professionals.

The program is also a good fit for students who have received a GED rather than a high school diploma, Cravath added.

In the area of CIS, the prospective student can choose the certificate and or degree they wish to earn. These programs will include an online orientation course, an online Entrepreneurial Education Course, and technical CIS certificates

For more information, call the Department at (928) 669-8831 or visit www.critd.com.

Mega Throw revives the sounds of bird singing



Traditional Mohave song and dance was the order of the day at the Ase S'maav Mega Throw III, which was held on January 20.

The Mega Throw is a celebration of Mohave culture through the "preservation of the Bird Song and Dance through CRIT Mohave youth," according to organizers of the event.

Bird songs are songs sung socially by Mohaves, and most importantly, sung during funeral rites.

The "Mega Throw" is named for the use of the traditional Mohave gourd.

The popular event included traditional Mohave music, dancing and dress. Performances included Tribal members and singers from other tribes as well.

Photos courtesy of Valerie Welsh-Tahbo



Hill-Poolaw returns to Council, promises fiscal stability

With her re-election to the CRIT Tribal Council, Daphne Hill-Poolaw is leaving behind one vital occupation for another. For the past six years, Hill-Poolaw has served as the tribe's Enrollment Administrator. There she oversaw the continued transformation of enrollment into one of where declaring "I am an Indian" was sufficient into the modern era where documentation of membership is required when applying for education, home sites, health and housing benefits.

But now, with her swearing in on Jan. 2, Hill-Poolaw begins a new role as CRIT's Tribal Treasurer. Hill-Poolaw was appointed by her colleagues to assume the role formerly held by newly elected Vice Chairman Eldred Enas.

"It's a new arena, but one I feel confident in," Hill-Poolaw said.

Hill-Poolaw based much of her campaign on vows to end any overspending of the tribal budget, throwing her support behind efforts to cease loans, grants and use of tribal vehicles for personal use. It's a vow Hill-Poolaw intends to keep.

"It's my vision and goal to make sure all of our accounts are balanced correctly, to make sure we get out of the red and come up to the status quo," Hill-Poolaw said. "We've got to make sure we get our priorities in order and make sure our finances are minded accordingly."



Daphne Hill-Poolaw is sworn in as a Tribal Council member for the second time after her election victory in December.

Hill-Poolaw is already busy working through the Tribal budget in what will be a two-year stint as Treasurer. She will be eligible for re-appointment. Though technically a new member, Hill-Poolaw is a familiar face on the Council. She was appointed in 2003 to serve the remaining two years of another member's term after that member resigned to run for higher office.

"I want to thank the membership, especially the elders that really sat me down and gave me

the history and showed confidence in me," Hill-Poolaw said. "All I can say is thank you. I'm going to do the best I can to protect the assets of the tribe and make sure finances are maintained properly and accordingly."

Hill-Poolaw is also active in water and land issues, and is concerned about social ills affecting CRIT families.

Hill-Poolaw's responsibilities add to an already full plate. She is Vice Chair of the Colorado River Residential Management Corporation, helping tribal members secure low-income housing and tax credits to achieve home ownership. She is also Chairwoman of the Business Enterprise Board, which oversees CRIT Air and CRIT's sand and rock enterprise, Colorado River Building Materials store, and the Aha Quin Resort. She is also Vice Chair of the Health Board.

And of course, many CRIT members know Hill-Poolaw as their minister and spiritual advisor. Hill-Poolaw is pastor at the All Tribes Sonlight Mission, a non-denominational Pentecostal church in Poston.

"I'm pretty busy," Hill-Poolaw said, in the understatement of the year.

She said that she swore to defend the U.S. Constitution against all enemies, and carry out faithfully and impartially the duties of her office.

"My goal is with the help of my constituents to balance the books. It's a priority," she said.

Full Circle: Armstrong returns home to serve on Council

For Richard Marvin Armstrong, his election and swearing to the Tribal Council on January 2 was sort of a homecoming.

After a 30-year career in federal law enforcement that has taken him throughout Indian Country and the continental United States, Armstrong has come full circle by returning to his home reservation to serve as one of the newest members of the Tribal Council.

Armstrong has never held elective office, but reiterated that his long stint working for the Bureau of Indian Affairs has prepared him well for the politics associated with public service.

"It's not a huge learning curve," Armstrong said. "It's similar, but much more intimate. Many of the various responsibilities are the same, but here it's your family."

Armstrong said his first goal in office is to help CRIT get its budget in order.

"To just make sure there is accountability for all funds, whether it's tribal money or federal grants or what have you," Armstrong said. "The program coordinators and directors must be accountable, and so must the Tribal Council, to get the most bang for the buck, if you will."

Armstrong was raised in the Parker Valley and attended the old Valley School, then LePera Elementary School, and graduated from Parker High School. As a high-school athlete, he gained



Richard Marvin Armstrong is sworn in for his four-year term as a Tribal Councilman in the January inauguration ceremony.

notoriety as a star in football as an offensive and defensive tackle. Armstrong went on to play junior college football at Palo Verde Junior College and then at California State-Fullerton.

His first job in law enforcement was as a detention officer for CRIT in 1973, and later as a patrol officer. He eventually left to become the Chief Law Enforcement Officer for the Fort Mohave Indian Tribe.

In 1975, Armstrong left Fort Mohave to join

the BIA as a law-enforcement officer.

"I steadily rose up the ranks from there," he said, completing over 3,000 hours of basic and special training over the years.

Armstrong retired in 2005 as the Special Agent in Charge for the Great Plains Region in Aberdeen, South Dakota, where he oversaw 12 bureau agencies and 37 tribally contracted programs.

Armstrong said his law enforcement career was rewarding in many ways, but there was one downside.

"Unfortunately, I have seen the worst of the worst of what Indian people can do to other Indian families. That's the sad part. For me it's worse than going to war, because you see relatives hurting other relatives. I suppose it made me somewhat callous. But as I've gotten older I've let all of that go. I've become more emotional."

After retiring, Armstrong spent about a year as magistrate for the Fort Mohave Tribal Court, and attended and completed training at the National Judicial College in Reno, Nevada during this time. During his law enforcement career, Armstrong stayed in close touch with the CRIT community, returning home to visit family and friends several times a year.

Armstrong and his wife, Donna, have four grown daughters who all live in the Phoenix area.

Upcoming Events

Events coming to BlueWater Resort

- Rain, a tribute to The Beatles, will perform on February 14 in the Bingo Concert Hall. They will be performing two shows that night, with the doors opening at 4 p.m. for the first show at 5 p.m. and reopening at 7:30 p.m. for the second show at 8 p.m. Ticket prices are \$20 in advance and \$25 day-of-show.
 - The inaugural “Dam to Dam BlueWater Big Bass Classic” bass tournament will be held on February 23-24. Local anglers will vie for the guaranteed \$1,000 first prize for this event, with payout to 6th place based on numbers of entries. The tournament is limited to the first 30 teams to enter. For more information, contact Dempsey Holt at (928) 669-7035 or e-mail dholt@bluewaterfun.com.
 - Roy Clark returns to the BlueWater Resort & Casino on March 3. There will be two shows that night, with the doors opening at 5 p.m. for the first show at 6 p.m. and re-opening at 8 p.m. for the second show at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 day-of-show.
 - On March 10-11, BlueWater Resort & Casino will be the host property for the annual Parker Ski Marathon. This race attracts the top marathon water ski racers from around the world. For more information on this event contact Dusty Schultz at (818) 222-4161.
 - The Billiards Club of America makes its return to the Bluewater Resort & Casino for its 2007 Arizona State 8-Ball Championships from March 23-25. This three-day event will be held in all the conference rooms at the resort. For more information contact Mike Howerton at (480) 251-3452 or housepro@azbilliards.com.
- ### Dig Lounge Schedule
- For the months of February and March there will be live entertainment in the Dig Lounge on Wednesday through Saturday from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. DJ Billy Joe Preston will be in the Dig Lounge Sunday and Tuesday and there will be Karaoke on Monday night from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.
 - February 7-10 — Pilot, with a female fronting a three-band band playing Rhythm & Blues from the 50s and 60s, Top 40 dance, classic rock, Old School and disco.
 - February 14-17 — Suite 33, a high-energy variety dance band featuring Top 40, classic rock, 50s and 60s and dance music.
 - February 21-24 — John Encinio and The Full House Band, playing country/western, classic rock and Tex-Mex.
 - February 28-March 3 — Swift Kick, with a female fronting a three-piece band specializing in current dance music along with selections from the 50s through 90s.
 - March 7-10 — Kelly J. Band, with a female fronting a four-piece band playing country and Rock ‘n’ Roll.
 - March 14-17 — Suite 33.
 - March 21-24 — Voo Doo, with a female fronting a three-piece band playing Top 40 dance and classic rock.
 - March 28-31 — The Crush, playing hits from the 70s and 80s, classic rock, dance music, disco and alternative dance.

Respect important at CRIT cemetery

Committee asks members to conduct themselves with respect at funerals

Members of the CRIT Cemetery Committee are asking Tribal members to maintain and cherish their culture and traditions when attending a loved one’s funeral.

There have been increasing reports of open drinking and drug use at funerals, a direct violation of Tribal custom and practice, said Dr. Michael Tsosie, CRIT museum director and a member of the Cemetery Committee.

“Several Mohave women cited open containers of alcohol, illicit activities in the parking lot and bathrooms, as well the wearing of dark sunglasses inside the Big House as unmistakable signs of the problem,” Tsosie said.

In particular, impaired Ichiyere singers have caused offense at several functions, Tsosie reported.

However, it is also a sign “disrespect and contempt for the deceased and the family” when mourners are also impaired, Tsosie said.

The Committee is reminding CRIT members to be more respectful because traditional verbal requests asking the offending individuals to leave have not been successful.

At a recent Cemetery Committee meeting, Cemetery Director Dale Howard stated that he and other Big House staff are unable to handle the situation for fear of physical assault, Tsosie reported.

CRIT Police Chief Ken Schwab said he is aware of the trouble at recent funerals and is taking steps to correct the situation.

Because of manpower, Schwab said that higher-priority emergency calls will take precedence over policing funerals. But he does plan to have officers or security personnel at future funerals.

The key, Schwab said, is communication between members and the police department. He encouraged families or members of the Cemetery Committee to provide his office with advance notice of any funerals so that he can arrange for an officer to be on hand.

Welsh-Tahbo leaves Career Development

Will focus on her duties on Tribal Council and new office of Secretary

In her final act as administrator of the CRIT Career Development Office, newly elected Tribal Secretary Valerie Welsh-Tahbo thanked her staff

as well as all the higher education and adult vocational training students that she has come to know since 1994.

She also reminded students to keep a close eye on the June 30 deadline to apply for tribal higher educational aid.

Career Development assistant Olivia Smart will serve as acting director until the position is filled.

Welsh-Tahbo said she has “the utmost confidence” that Smart and receptionist Stephanie Enas “will forge through the award process with the courtesy and professionalism our office has always bestowed.”

Welsh-Tahbo also urged students to stay in close contact with Smart to learn how the Education Code, passed in 2002, will affect them.

“The current Education Committee is

maneuvering its way to become more and more dependent on effectuating the Education Code,” Welsh-Tahbo said.

“Until this past academic year our office hasn’t really seen a trend to move in that direction until now.”

The deadline to apply for CDO assistance is June 30 (Oct. 30 in the fall). The whole process can take four to six weeks, so the sooner a student starts the better.

A meeting with Parker High School juniors and seniors and parents will take place later this month (February) to review program requirements and begin paperwork for the June 30 deadline.

In addition to Smart and Enas, Welsh-Tahbo also thanked support staff Tim Stevens as well as former staffers Kenton Hough, Ora Humeumptewa, Rosie Leivas, Billie Jean Stillman, Vanessa Barley, Eileen Garcia, Marlon Gary Short Jr. She also mentioned Deanna Patch, a current student who designed the CDO web site. Other programs the CDO offers include Direct Employment, youth programs and Boarding School.

For more information on CDO programs, call 1-800-809-6207 or visit www.crit-cdo.com.

Head Start program provides info for families

• Health screenings will be held for children from birth to four years of age from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. March 8 at CRIT Head Start.

Children up to three years of age will receive developmental screenings and children three to five years of age will receive vision and dental screenings and a physical exam.

Please call the Head Start office for an appointment at (928) 662-4311.

• Head Start is taking applications for the 2007-08 program year. Eligible children must be between ages three and four as of August 31. Applications can be picked up at the center located at Indian School and Mohave Road.

If you are unable to go to the center, an

application can be delivered or mailed. Parents/Guardians must have the child’s birth certificate, immunization record, proof of income and Tribal Membership if applicable.

• CRIT Head Start actively recruits children with disabilities.

The program works with Parker Unified School District to provide services to children with disabilities. If you think your child has a disability (hearing, vision, speech, developmental, physical/orthopedic problems) contact Charlotte at 662-4311.

All children must have a health screening and Tuberculosis (TB) test completed before being placed in Head Start.

Recall effort against supervisor fails

In a victory for Tribal issues and advocacy at the county government level, a recall effort against La Paz County Supervisor Eugene Fisher has failed.



Gene Fisher

Fisher, who represents the CRIT reservation, has been a strong advocate for Tribal issues since taking office in 1988. And that will continue to be the case after dual recall efforts against both Fisher and Board Chairman Clifford Edey failed to garner enough valid signatures.

“This is great news for CRIT,” Tribal Chairman Daniel Eddy, Jr. said of the failed recall effort against Fisher. “Supervisor Fisher backed CRIT on its bid to restore the La Paz Lands and on many other important issues, and I’m sure we will continue to show their strong support and faith in him.” According to the *Parker Pioneer*, the organization Time for a Change, headed up by

Parker area residents Jerry McGuire and Cynthia G. Jones, faced a host of problems with their petitions, which were circulated by a paid signature-gathering firm. Those problems included signatures from non-registered voters, signers who lived outside the district, duplicative signatures and a small number where the signatures did not match those on registration records. The recall committee needed 331 valid signatures to force a recall election of Fisher. The petitioners turned in 535, but only 284 were valid, according to the *Pioneer*. Fisher said he was extremely gratified by the support he received from CRIT members during the recall effort (see related letter to the editor). “The comments that people would make to me on the street like ‘keep your head up,’ ‘stay strong,’ and ‘we’re behind you,’ that was so very humbling,” Fisher said. “I have been so very proud to represent this district, and I do feel so much for the tribe. And I’m certainly pleased that it is finished.”

TAX CODE, From Page 1

“Each of the five businesses received repeated notices of violation, and has had many months and opportunities to comply with tribal law,” Shepard said. “Over 600 businesses on the reservation have obtained the required licenses.” These five businesses have repeatedly refused to comply. Their actions are illegal and unfair to other businesses.” The Tribes have the power to regulate businesses on the Reservation to protect and preserve the political integrity of the Tribes, and the health and welfare of tribal members. Among these powers, CRIT can place conditions on non-Indian conduct or presence on the Reservation. “Conducting business on the reservation is a privilege, not a right,” Shepard said. According to tribal law, a tribal business license is required of every business upon any land subject to the Tribes’ jurisdiction. The cost of an annual business license is \$100. Some of the businesses cited did have tribal business licenses for some prior years, but ceased complying with the law. One Stop Hair Shop, Domino’s and Davis Building Supply never complied with the business license requirement. None of the five businesses have paid the license fees and penalties due. Nevertheless, each continues to conduct business in violation of tribal law. As of press time, none of the businesses had responded to the complaints. After the businesses answer, the cases will proceed in a normal fashion before the Tribal Court. On Jan. 11, the Tribal Council took action to cease conducting business with the Domino’s franchise in Parker and Davis Building supply effective immediately. That means no tribal department or enterprise will conduct any business with the stores. The Council urged the Tribes’ membership to follow suit.

Announcements

Birthday Announcements

I would like to wish Happy Birthdays for January 2007 to...
Avis Whipple (Grandmother)
Ethelyn McCowan (Aunt)
Ephraim McCowan (Nephew)
Lindsey Evanston (Brother)
— From Feather. Love you all.
Also, to Blake Martin for Leon Evanston. For February...
Lena Nez (February 4)
Katrina Nez (February 11)
From your big sister Feather Evanston and your nephews.



Introducing our little boy, Oscar Cousins Patch. Born October 2, 2006, 6 lbs. 15 oz., 19.5 inches, 5:38 a.m.
— Oscar and Tracy

January 5 — Happy Belated Birthday Sheila Anderson. From Justin
January 12 — Happy Belated Birthday Ethle McCowan & Maggie Scott. From your nephew and brother Justin
January 21 — Happy Belated Birthday to Jacob. Love Mommy & Julie Bear
February 8 — Happy Birthday to Julie Bear. Love Jake & Mommy
Happy Birthday Mike T. Love Jake & Jules
Happy Birthday Mom. Love your kids and grandkids
Happy Birthday Dad. From your girls & Jake, Jules, Camden & Kaitlyn
February 10 — Michael Scott Martinez — Happy Birthday Brother, wish you many more to come! Much love and respect. Your brother, Jason Martinez
Happy Birthday Michael Scott. From your

cousin Justin
February 14 — To my Father, “Pops,” “Papa,” Carlos J. Martinez II — I wish you a very happy birthday!! Sorry I can’t be there, but much love and respect!! I also want to thank you for being there for me and Rosita through hard times! Love and miss you. Love your son, Jason Martinez
Happy Valentine’s Day to all my Mohave sisters on our CRIT reservation. Keep your heads up and stand strong ladies! Don’t let nothing get you down!! Jason Martinez
Happy Birthday to my beautiful lil’ Valentine Rosita Martinez, Daddy loves and misses you with all my heart and soul! Be good and behave, I’ll be home soon! Love Dad, Jason Martinez
March 3 — Happy Birthday Kyle Scott. From your brother Justin
March 4 — Happy Birthday Andrew Scott. From your uncle Justin
March 7 — Happy Birthday Leeanna Yazzie. From Justin
March 26 — Happy Birthday Judith McCowan. From your brother Justin
March 27 — Happy Birthday Justine Leigh. From your dad Justin
March 31 — Happy Birthday Douglas Scott, Jr. & Deborah Scott. From your brother Justin
April 5 — Happy Birthday Chelsea Scott. From your brother Justin

March 2 — Happy Birthday Kevin "Dad" Lomayesva! Love, Samson, Eythan, Marilyn and Monroe
The Manataba Messenger accepts announcements on graduations, awards, engagements, obituaries and many other special occasions and events. To submit an announcement, see the contact information on Page 12 of this issue.

Got something to share with CRIT members? Write us!

MANATABA MESSENGER

E-MAIL address:
feedback@critonline.com

Letters to the Editor
Article Submissions
Announcements

Local student up for national award

Lynniss Gonzales, a CRIT member and Parker High School Senior, has been nominated to compete in the national Principal’s Leadership Award (PLA) scholarship program, sponsored by the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP).

One hundred national PLA winners will be chosen this spring to receive \$1,000 college scholarships. Parker High School Principal Dr. LeRoy Shontz announced the nomination late last year. “Lynniss has demonstrated great leadership abilities as an outstanding student, athlete, and through her involvement in student government,” Shontz said.



Lynniss Gonzales

High School principals from across the country were able to nominate one of their student leaders. Nominees were selected based on their leadership skills, participation in service organizations and clubs, achievement in the arts and sciences, employment experiences, and academic record. They were also required to write an essay. Gonzales has been Student Body President, Class President her freshman, sophomore, and junior years, and a standout athlete in volleyball and women’s basketball.

CRIT Briefs News from around the CRIT Reservation

CRIT Recreation hosting events

CRIT Recreation will host several sporting events in March and April, including:

- 11th Annual Men’s Open Six-Foot & Under Basketball Tournament — March 23-24. Entry Fee: \$200.00 (no personal checks). Deadline: Wednesday, March 21. There is a \$100.00 deposit due by deadline.
- Eligibility: Must be 18 and older (proof of age required), and must be 6 feet tall or under.
- 40th Annual All-Indian Men’s Basketball Tournament — March 30-31. Entry Fee: \$200.00 (no personal checks). Deadline: Wednesday, March 28. There is \$100.00 deposit due by deadline. Eligibility: Must be 18 years and older, Native American from a federal recognized tribe. Player must show proof of enrollment of tribe (Tribal ID, CIB).
- 37th Annual Boy’s Open Pee-Wee Class “C” Basketball Tournament — April 13-14. Ages 8-10 years (co-ed), 11-13 years (Boys Only). Entry Fee: \$150.00 (no personal checks). There is a \$100.00 deposit due by deadline.

For more information about these events, contact the CRIT Recreation Department at (928) 669-1350.

CRIT Police Reserve seeks members

The CRIT Police Department has formed a

Tobacco education program offers tips

Make 2007 a smoke-free year and improve your health and well-being

Is your New Year’s Resolution to quit smoking or just try to cut back? Here are some simple and quick tips courtesy of the CRIT Tobacco Education and Prevention Program that can help you kick the habit for good.

Before you quit

- Select a date to quit and stick to it!
- Tell everyone you are going to quit.
- Postpone your first tobacco use of the day by one hour each day.
- Don’t carry tobacco with you or make it convenient to use.
- Create a survival kit (Small bags available at CRIT TEPP office).

On the day you quit

- Throw away all tobacco, ashtrays, lighters, and spittoons.
- Keep very busy.
- Go places you can’t smoke or chew (mall, movies, etc.)
- Surround yourself with non-tobacco using people.
- Clean your clothes to rid them of tobacco odor.

Handling the Urges....

- Remember, urges only last 2-3 minutes.
- Light an incense candle instead.
- Exercise or go for a walk.
- Keep your hands busy (do a puzzle, write a letter).
- Take a shower.
- Call a friend or family member for support.
- Call the Arizona Smokers hotline at (800) 556-6222.

Remember the 4 D’s

- * Delay (2-3 minutes).
- Drink a glass of water.
- Deep Breathing.
- Distraction.

For your successful tobacco-free life...

- Celebrate your success! Treat yourself to something nice with the money you would have spent on tobacco.
- Ask a friend or spouse to quit with you.
- Don’t think in terms of never using tobacco again, take it one day at a time.
- Find ways to handle trigger times and places(drinking coffee, driving after meals).
- Brush your teeth or use mouth wash after meals.

For more information contact Bylli Esquerra, Coordinator of the CRIT Tobacco Program, at (928) 669-6577 or e-mail bylli.esquerra@critdhs.org.

police reserve unit and is looking for more volunteers. Volunteers that are accepted will receive training in basic patrol procedures, traffic control, laws governing arrest of suspects, public relations and other law enforcement skills. Reserve officers will then be teamed with full-time police officers to work on patrol shifts. The time commitment for reserves will be at least 16 volunteer hours a month. “This is a great opportunity for individuals to give back to their tribal community in an interesting and worthwhile endeavor,” said Tribal Police Chief Ken Schwab. For further information contact Schwab at (928) 669-1251.

Lectures on Tribal history offered

CRIT Museum Director Dr. Michael Tsosie will offer a series of public lectures on tribal history. The first two lectures will be from 6 to 8 p.m. February 26 and 28 in the Tribal Council chambers. Tsosie’s lectures will provide a comprehensive outline of the tribal history followed by specific topical lectures of interest to local tribal members. Tsosie has more than 20 years experience in research and scholarship on the history on the tribes of the Colorado River Indian Reservation. He utilized the world-respected libraries of Harvard University, University of California-Berkeley, the Library of Congress and the Smithsonian Institution, as well as archives all over the country, including the National Archives of the United States. “I am really pleased to be able to give back

this amazing history to the tribe,” Tsosie said. “All of this work was inspired by my uncle, Dennis Patch, a great supporter and student of history.” Tsosie hopes that younger Tribal members will develop pride in themselves by learning more about the great achievements made by their ancestors and families. “Hopefully these lectures will be the structure for a book on our history,” he said. Tsosie is a nationally recognized scholar in American Indian studies and has lectured at prominent colleges and universities all over the United States and Canada. Tsosie has contributed to such diverse disciplines as anthropology, history, literature, gender studies and American Indian studies.

Meeting to move Poston forward

There will be a Poston Project meeting on Saturday, Feb. 24, in Los Angeles. Topics include information regarding the new nonprofit organization (Poston Community Alliance) set up to work on getting a museum on the site, an architect’s proposal to develop a master plan. The recently-passed legislation by Congress to fund restoration of the 10 former internment camps will also be discussed. Specific information on the meeting site is below. All who are interested in this project are welcome to attend. For more information call (928) 669-8831 or visit www.postonproject.org. The meeting will be at start 8:30 a.m. (coffee & tea) and go from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Centenary United Methodist Church, 300 Central Avenue Los Angeles (Downtown Japan Town).

Fall Gathering celebrates Tribal dance, music



Music, garments take center stage

CRIT members and visitors from Native American communities throughout the region enjoyed a celebration of traditional song, dance and garments at the 2006 Fall Gathering, held at the BlueWater Resort & Casino on November 18.

The CRIT Office of Tourism sponsored the event to preserve traditional song, dance and language of the tribes. It was the sixth year the event has taken place.

(Top left and bottom left) The Hopi Dancers share their water maiden dance. (Top right) The Young Mohave girls step to the Bird Dance Singers' songs. (Middle left and right) The White Mountain Crown Dancers share their culture with the people. (Bottom right) The CRIT Hopi Dancers perform their corn dance.

Photos courtesy of Ron Charles.



We Want To Hear From You!

The *Manataba Messenger* is a publication of the Colorado River Indian Tribes.
 If you have a question, story idea, suggestion, letter to the editor or anything else you'd like to see in the *Manataba Messenger*, call or write us...

Route 1, Box 23-B
 Parker, AZ 85344
 (928) 669-1233 or
 (928) 669-1223
 feedback@critonline.com

Also, for a comprehensive listing of key tribal information, back issues of *The Manataba Messenger*, tourism information and other CRIT Tribal information, visit the Tribes' web site:

www.critonline.com

Don't forget the
 April photo contest!

Advertise With Us!

Now you can reach the 3,500 members of the Colorado River Indian Tribes directly. *Manataba Messenger*, the official publication of CRIT, is distributed by mail to all members and at newsstands at prominent locations throughout the Parker area, including the BlueWater Resort & Casino.
 For more information, please call (928) 669-1233 or 669-1223.

Vacancies open on boards, commissions

The following Tribal Boards and Commissions currently have vacancies that are open to Tribal members.
 Those interested may pick up an application at the Tribal Executive Office. The deadline for submissions is Friday, February 9 at 5 p.m.

Business Enterprise Board
 (Three-year terms, expiring February 2010)
 Two full-term vacancies
 One unexpired term (February 2009)

CRIT Farm Board
 (Three-year terms, expiring February 2010)
 Three vacancies

Health Board
 (Two-year terms, expiring February 2009)
 Three vacancies

Parks & Recreation Committee
 (Two-year terms, expiring February 2009)
 Three vacancies

Tero Board
 (Two-year terms, expiring February 2009)
 Three vacancies

Big River Development Enterprise Board
 (Two-year terms, expiring February 2009)
 One vacancy

Education Committee
 (Two-year terms, expiring February 2009)
 Two vacancies

Liquor Control Board
 (Two-year terms, expiring February 2009)
 Three full-term vacancies
 One alternate unexpired term (Feb. 2008)

Pesticide Control Board
 (Two-year terms, expiring February 2009)
 One full term
 One unexpired term (February 2008)
 For more information, visit the Tribal Executive Offices.

COUNCIL,
 From Page 1

Richard Marvin Armstrong also were sworn in to their seats on the Council.
 Incumbent Council Members Sylvia "Cindy" Homer and Ray Aspa were not re-elected in the December election.
 In all there were 16 candidates running for the three open seats.
 Additionally, Hill-Poolaw, CRIT's longtime Enrollment Administrator, was chosen by the Tribal Council to be Tribal Treasurer, a role formerly held by Enas.
 Hill-Poolaw and Armstrong are profiled on

Page 7 of this issue. Profiles of Enas and Welsh, Jr. will appear in a future issue of the *Manataba Messenger*.
 Council Member Valerie Welsh-Tahbo was appointed by her fellow Council Members to take over as Tribal Secretary, the office that was held by Homer.
 Because of her new duties, Welsh-Tahbo relinquished her longtime role as Tribal Career Development Administrator (See related article Page 8).
 Tribal Council members are elected to four-year terms.
 The next election is scheduled to be in late 2008, when the office of Chairman and four additional council seats will be up for a vote of Tribal membership.



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